City of Newport Beach Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee Minutes

Date:

April 10, 2014

Time:

3:00 p.m.

Location: Newport Coast Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Bay E

1. Welcome/Self Introductions

Committee Members present:

Chairwoman/Council Member Nancy Gardner

Council Member Mike Henn

Dennis Baker

Carl Cassidy

George Robertson

Tom Houston

Lou Denger

Michael Melby

Guests present:

Jim Mosher, resident

Jeff Coffman, Clean Green Technology

Michelle Nidever, O.C. Coastkeeper

Darrel Ferguson, Surfrider Foundation

Greg Goran, Surfrider Foundation

Philip Bettencourt, Bettencourt & Associates

Ray Heimstra, O.C. Coastkeeper

Adam Gale, Anchor QEA

Shelly Anghera, Ph.D., Anchor QEA

Staff present:

Dave Kiff, City Manager

John Kappeler, Water Quality Manager

Shane Burckle, Water Conservation Coordinator

Shari Rooks, Public Works Specialist

Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer

Chris Miller, Harbor Resources Manager

The agenda for the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee was posted at 4:05 pm on April 3, 2014, in the binder located in the entrance of the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

The February 13, 2014 and the March 13, 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

3. Old Business

Bay and Ocean Bacteriological Test Results John Kappeler reviewed recent water quality test results within Newport Bay and along the ocean shoreline.

b. 2014 Committee Goals and Priorities

Nancy Gardner advised Committee that Council voted to move the Irvine Avenue medians to the top of the committee's recommended list for turf removal locations so that the median work can be incorporated in the upcoming Irvine Avenue capital improvement project.

Several of the Homeowner's Associations have been contacted regarding street

sweeping and catch basin cleaning.

• The 3rd week of May and the 3rd week of June are expected to have extreme low tides so those times are targeted for the "Arches" drain dry weather sampling project.

 We have grant money for wet weather sampling, but we may not have any more wet weather between now and the end of June when John Kappeler brings the testing

results to the committee.

4. New Business

a. Chris Miller introduced Shelly Anghera, Ph.D. from Anchor QEA and she gave an overview on the Proposed Newport Bay Copper Total Maximum Daily Load (TDML) for Newport Bay. Please see attached presentation.

The City is at the stage in the TMDL process where we are developing an

implementation plan.

In order to be de-listed from the Copper TMDL the Regional Board requires that 90% of the data that we collect is below the numeric target of 3.1 μ g/L. Currently we do not know if 3.1 is the right number – it is a very conservative, over-protective number.

 What we have learned from the results of 4 tests done by Anchor QEA and 20 tests done by Orange County Coast keeper is that no copper toxicity was observed in the water samples in Newport Bay – however there is observed toxicity in the sediment.

• Ray Heimstra noted that Coastkeeper's tests of copper toxicity estimated 5,000 pounds per year came from storm drains, 7,000 pounds per year came from midchannel and 50,000 pounds per year came from boats.

We need to find out what the implementation plan will say and how the Regional

Board will enforce the copper limits.

Non-Voluntary Actions to meet TMDLs should include reducing the number of boats with copper boat paint; implementing a monitoring program; add permit compliance requirements and support the Department of Pesticide Regulation for antifouling paint limit of 9.5 μ g/L.

Voluntary Actions to meet TMDLs should include developing site-specific copper criteria; public education and outreach; and implementing best management

practices.

• City needs to evaluate the effectiveness of developing a new water quality criteria for Newport Bay that would demonstrate that $5.0~\mu g/L$ is protective and represents 80% of the bay. This could take up to a year of negotiations with the Regional Board and the Environmental Protection Agency at a cost of \$150,000.

 City should work together with other cities and counties to share data and consider doing some initial testing using the less expensive Biotic Ligand Model (BLM) alongside the expensive Water Effects Ratio (WER) to demonstrate that results from

the BLM tests are accurate.

Both Shelly Anghera and Ray Heimstra referenced the study done by Leigh T. Johnson and Jamie A. Gonzalez of the University of California in 2007 describing the effects on invasive species and the ecosystem by the potential statewide ban of copper-based antifouling paints in California. See link below to view the study: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/CZ07 Proceedings/PDFs/Monday Abstracts/3360.Go nzalez.pdf

b. Adopting a natural Source Exclusion

Committee discussion on the status of the Fecal Coliform TMDL and adopting a natural source exclusion. The way the current TMDL is written, we are currently meeting our bacteria TMDL everywhere except one spot – the Newport Boulevard Bridge and unless the Regional Board revises the TMDL the City will not be able to comply by the deadline at the end of this year. The City has installed a bioswale, CDS units and trash skimmers, but we are still exceeding the limits. **John Kappeler** met with some people from UCLA and will be doing the two dry weather sampling events in May and June so they can be speciated and DNA typed to determine if it is plant-based bacteria, natural bacteria or if it is a human sewage bacteria. The results of the dry weather study will be presented to the Regional Board.

Santa Monica Bay's Natural Source Exclusion allows them a certain number of days

(16) that they are permitted to exceed the limit.

• If the City wants to convince the Regional Board that no swimming or water contact occurs at the Newport Boulevard Bridge site it will be necessary to document that fact using cameras similar to the procedure used by O.C. Coastkeeper – taking pictures every 15 minutes for a period of 6 months.

ACTION: Look into having someone from Santa Monica come to a meeting and explain what process they followed to be granted a Natural Source Exclusion.

c. Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Tier I Grant Program Submittals

• **Surfrider** would like to partner with the City on the median turf replacements, specifically the median across from the Crab Cooker near the Newport Pier as the site for an Ocean Friendly garden and educational signage.

Mike Henn noted that Council may approve new landscaping down the peninsula that would tie in with the plant palate used for new landscape on Balboa Boulevard and asked that the plant palette for the median at Newport Pier be similar.

d. OCTA Tier II Grant Program Awards

• Bayview Heights Restoration/Mitigation Project – Total Project: \$485,000, Grant Funds \$305,000, Match \$180,000 (Match funds will be paid for by the two private property owners and the County of Orange.)

Corona del Mar Water Quality Improvement Project – Total Project: \$360,000, Grant Funds \$250,000, Match \$110,000 (Some of the Match funds can be written off on staff time so the actual cost to the General Fund will be close to \$80,000.)

 Big Canyon Restoration/Wetlands Project – Total Project: \$2,275,400, Grant Funds \$1,592,780, Match \$682,620 (Match funds will be provided by the Irvine Company and Defend the Bay – no impact to the General Fund.) 5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Newport Beach Surfrider has teamed up with Orange County Public Works in the past to get into the Santa Ana River Channel twice a year to clean up the trash. One of the difficult parts of this cleanup is the layer of silt built up just south of Talbert Avenue and north of the 405 Freeway. **Darrel Ferguson** would like to work on a BMP to remove the silt. The next cleanup of this area will be April 26th and the crews will gather at Talbert Avenue.

6. Topics for Future Agendas

- (a) Bacteriological Dry-Weather Runoff Gutter Study (Phase III)
- (b) Prop 84 ASBS Grant Program
- (c) Senate Bill SB 1447
- (d) Eelgrass Program
- (e) Trash Project for Storm Drains
- (f) Harbor Commission Copper Report
- (g) Orange County Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan
- (h) Sediment Quality Objectives (SOQs)
- (i) NPDES Fifth Term Draft Permit
- (j) Adopting a Natural Source Exclusion
- (k) Banning Ranch
- (I) Grey Water

7. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set for May 8, at 3 PM in the **Newport Coast Conference Room**, **Bay E, 2**nd **Floor**.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Chairwoman / Nancy Gardner

Health Care Agency / Environmental Health Newport Bay Bacteriological Monitoring Program Total Coliform (TC), Fecal Coliform, Enterococcus (ENT) Colony Forming Units / 100 ml Sample

STATION	Location Description	T	12/2/13	12/9/13	12/16/13	12/23/13	12/30/13	1/6/14	1/13/14	1/21/14	1/27/14	2/3/14	2/10/14	2/18/14	2/24/14	3/3/14	3/10/14	3/17/14	3/24/14	3/31/14	4/7/1
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3NB24	Newport Dunes - East	TC	250	>38000	2400	40	<10	80	40	<10	20	130	110	20	>80	>1210	>260	>220	>40	>30	NS
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CNBSA	Santa Ana Delhi Channel	TC	>7400		>4500		>3800	>930	30000		>3000 >		7700	>2100	>2000	>72000	>5400		>4800	>470 >2	-26000
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CNBBC	Big Canyon Creek	TC	>720		>420		>290		>640	>390	>470	>940	>480	>800	>420	SN	>380	>600	>250		>3200
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CNBND	Backbay Drive Pipe	TC	>1230	>660	>960	>370	>510	>570	>1600	>1970	>3200	>740		>11000	>5800	>410	>780	>5600	100		>3000
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NEW DATA
SINGLE SAMPLE STANDARD VIOLATION
NO SAMPLE / NO DATA
CONFULENT GROWTH WITH SHEEN
CONFULENT GROWTH WITH BLEEN
CONFULENT GROWTH WITH BLUE (FECAL INDICATOR) N/S CWOS CWS CWB

City of Newport Beach Water Quality / Coastal Tidelands

Committee

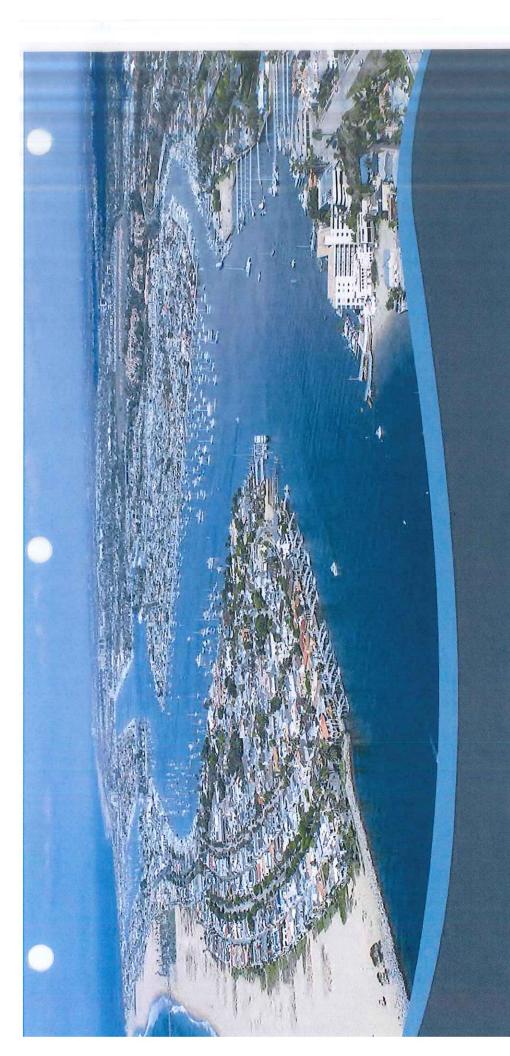
March 13, 2014

2014 Goal Setting

- 1. Street Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning
- 2. Trash Booms in the Newport Bay Watershed
- 3. Storm Drain to Sewer Diversions i.e. the "Arches"
- 4. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBSs) – dry weather flows and related issues
- 5. Newport Bay Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- 6. Refuse and Household Hazardous Waste Pickup
- 7. Grey Water Standards

- 8. Biofilm Research
- 9. Semeniuk Slough
- 10. Bight '13
- 11. Banning Ranch
- 12. Reclaimed Water
- 13. Habitat Restoration

Note: Projects are not listed in any specific order.



What are they and how can they impact Newport Bay? Copper Total Maximum Daily Loads:

Presented by Shelly Anghera, Ph.D.

April 10, 2014

Presentation Outline

- What is a TMDL?
- What is copper TMDL?
- What is going on in Newport Bay?
- What do we know?
- What don't we know?
- What can the Newport Bay community do to address the copper TMDL?

What is a TMDL?

 A regulatory term in the Clean Water Act that describes the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive and still meet water quality standards



Why do we have TMDLs?

- Clean Water Act
- "Restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters"
- Requires States to list impaired waters and develop TMDLs for priority ranked waters
- Requires States to develop TMDLs for pollutants in waters where pollution controls are required to meet water quality standards

Determine Beneficial Uses in Waterbody

Set Maximum
Pollutant
Develop Pollutant
Allocations for Each
Source

Identify Sources and Amount of Pollutant

Assess Water Quality

Place on 303(d) List for Development of a TMDL

> Water Quality Standards Not Met

Implement TMDL: Permits, Cleanup Actions, and Best Management Practices

Track Progress and
Effectiveness of
Actions
Monitor Water Quality

Determine Beneficial Uses in Waterbody

Set Maximum Pollutant

Develop Pollutant Allocations for Each Source

Implement TMDL: Permits, Cleanup Actions, and Best Management Practices

Identify Sources and Amount of Pollutant

Assess Water Quality

Track Progress and

Effectiveness of Actions
Monitor Water Quality
Quality Standards and Beneficial Uses are

Place on 303(d) List for Development of a TMDL

Standards Not Met

Water Quality

(d) List lent of a Bene

Restored

Designated Beneficial Uses Within Harbors

- Navigation
- Industrial service supply
- Recreational use water contact
- Non-contact water recreation
- Commercial and sport fishing

- Protection of aquatic life, including marine
- Rare and endangered species and habitat
- Areas for spawning and reproduction
- Wildlife habitat
- Shellfish harvesting

Determine Beneficial Uses in Waterbody

Set Maximum
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Develop Pollutant
Allocations for Each
Source

Management Practices

Implement TMDL: Permits, Cleanup Actions, and Best Track Progress and Effectiveness of Actions Monitor Water Quality

Assess Water Quality

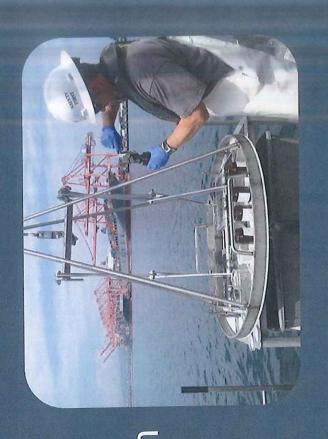
Identify Sources and Amount of Pollutant Place on 303(d) List for Development of a TMDL

Standards Not Met

Water Quality

Data Collection Programs

- Permit compliance
- Proposed dredged material characterization
- Regional monitoring programs
- Special studies



Water Quality Criteria

- Narrative criteria
- "Waters shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses."
- Numeric criteria
- "The ambient water quality criterion for copper is 3.1 µg/L for the protection of marine aquatic organisms"

Example Issue: Copper TMDLs Use Conservative Numeric Targets

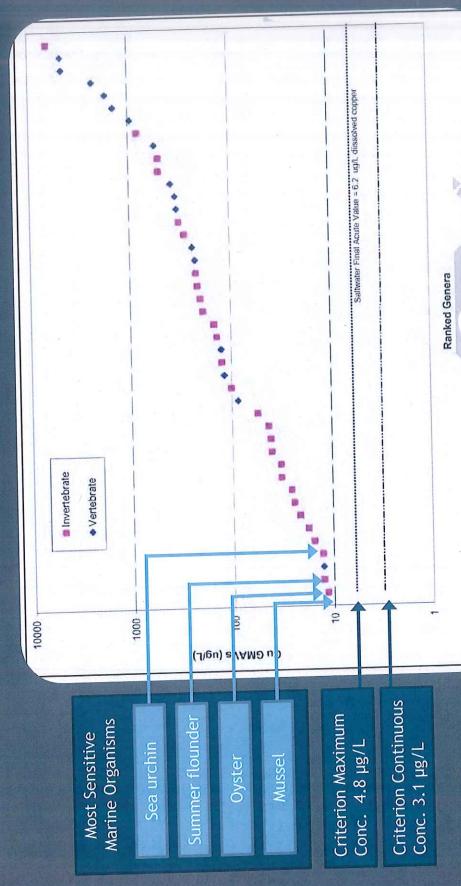
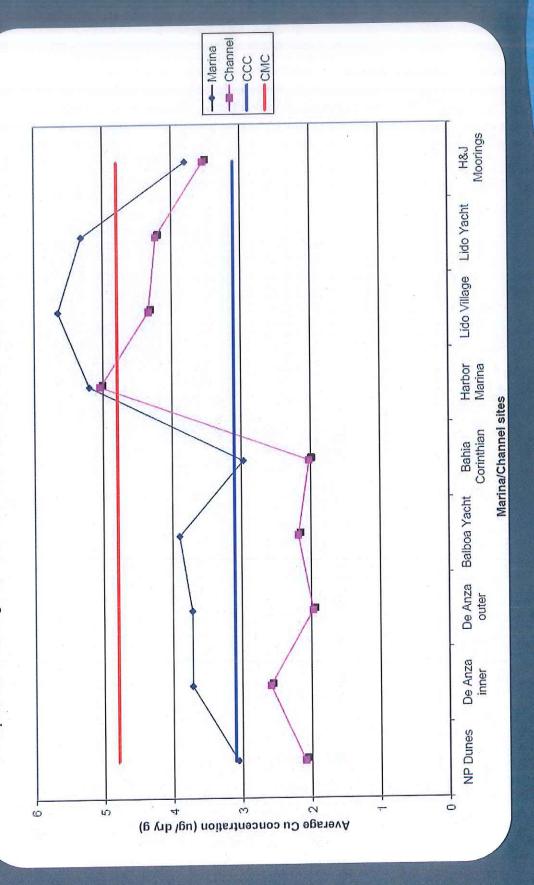


Figure 7. Ranked Saltwater Genus Mean Acute Values (GMAVs)

Data suggest that development of site specific objectives in accordance with USEPA (1994) may be appropriate.

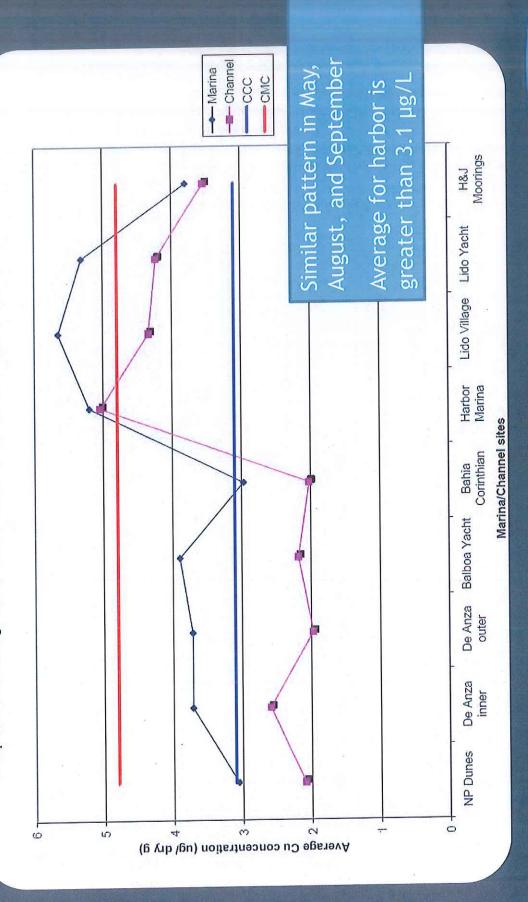
Orange County Coastkeeper 2007

Comparison of average Dissolved Cu concentrations (ug/ dry g) at marina and channel sites



Orange County Coastkeeper 2007

Comparison of average Dissolved Cu concentrations (ug/ dry g) at marina and channel sites



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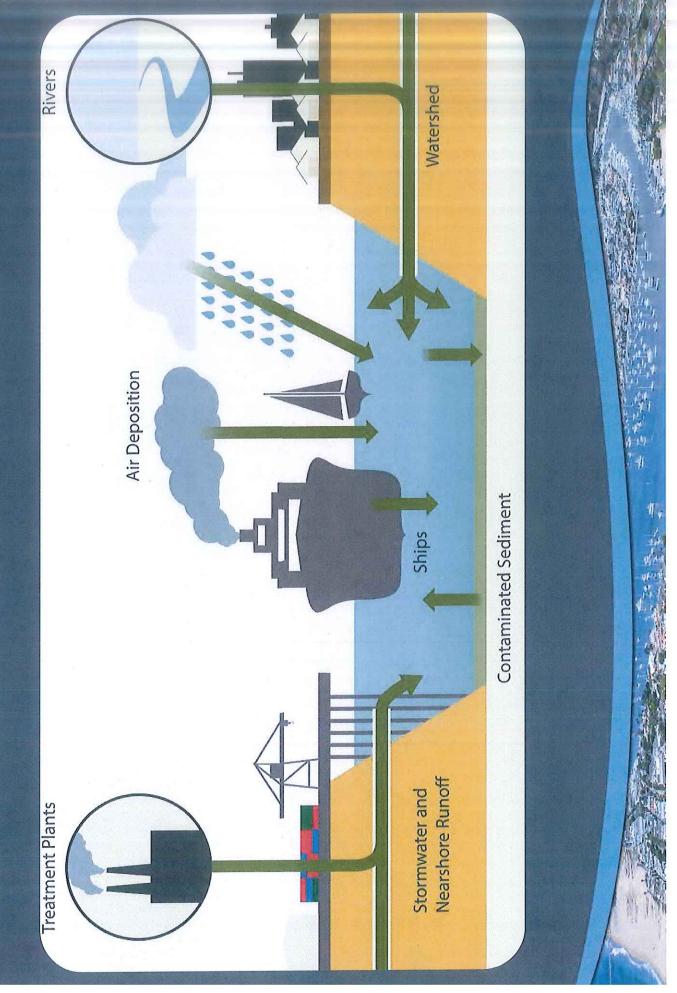
Standards Not Met

Water Quality

Implement TMDL: Permits, Cleanup Actions, and Best Management Practices

Track Progress and Effectiveness of Actions Monitor Water Quality

Potential Sources of Pollutants



Example Issue: Copper TMDLs Assumed Sources and Sinks

Atmospheric Stormwater Deposition Runoff

Tidal Exchange with Open Bay, Ocean Waters

Passive Leaching: --Copper Boat Paint

Waterbody
Marina, harbor, bay,
river segment

Hull Cleaning

 \rightarrow

Sediment Flux

Example Issue: Copper TMDLs Assumed Sources and Sinks

Leachate rate is based on

Atmospheric St Deposition

Stormwater Runoff

te Deposi

Site-specific, highly variable

Passive Leaching: Copper Boat Paint

Hull Cleaning

Waterbody
Marina, harbor, bay,
river segment

Tidal Exchange with Open Bay, Ocean Waters

Can change from sink to source, condition depende

Sediment Flux

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Permits, Cleanup Actions, and Best

Implement TMDL:

Track Progress and Effectiveness of

Actions

Identify Sources and Amount of Pollutant Monitor Water Quality

Assess Water Quality

Place on 303(d) List for Development of a TMDL

Standards Not Met

Water Quality

What is going on in Newport Bay?

- What do we know?
- Data show copper >3.1 frequently enough that RWQCB believes copper controls are needed
- What don't we know?
- Is 3.1 µg/L overprotective? Does Newport Bay really have a water quality problem?
- Is the marine life impacted? Is toxicity observed?
- Anchor QEA (4 tests) none observed;
- Orange County Coast Keeper (10 tests in 2007) none observed
- What methods are going to be effective at reducing Cu in Newport?

Meeting TMDLs: Non-Voluntary Actions

- Reduce copper boat paint
- Implement monitoring program
- Permit compliance requirements
- WDRs, NPDES, MS4, industrial, and construction permits
- Support Dept. Pesticide Regulation antifouling paint (AFP) limit of 9.5µg/L

Meeting TMDLs: Voluntary actions

- Develop site-specific copper criteria
 - Public education
- Implement best management practices



Recommended next steps

- Find out what the Implementation plan will say and how RWQCB will enforce the copper limits
- Develop monitoring plan with RWQCB acceptance
- Determine the average copper concentration in the harbor. Determine where copper may be elevated.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of developing a new water quality criteria for Newport Bay
- Continue to implement BMPs and public education/out reach
- Develop regional approaches through CMANC and other boating organizations

Questions

BALANCING RECREATIONAL BOATING, INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, AND WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

Jamie A. Gonzalez, University of California Cooperative Extension-Sea Grant Extension Program, San Diego County

Leigh T. Johnson, University of California Cooperative Extension-Sea Grant Extension Program, San Diego County

Keywords: recreational boats, invasive species, water quality, hull transport, antifouling paint

INTRODUCTION

California's boating industry contributes \$16 billion per year to the state's economy (CSU, Sacramento Foundation 2002). Impacts from invasive species introductions and from toxic antifouling bottom paints continue to affect California's ecosystem. The University of California Cooperative Extension- Sea Grant Extension Program in San Diego has been working on cost-effective programs for boaters to prevent hull transport of aquatic invasive species (AIS) and to protect water quality by reducing the use of toxic antifoulants.

BACKGROUND

Antifouling paints are under regulatory scrutiny in California due to elevated levels of dissolved copper in crowded boat basins. Total Maximum Daily Load programs to regulate copper from antifouling paints are complete or are underway in a few, southern California coastal areas. The California State Water Resources Control Board will require 76% reduction of copper discharges from antifouling paints in Shelter Island Yacht Basin of San Diego Bay by 2022 (CRWQCB, SDR 2004). Other parts of San Diego Bay have been listed on the California SWRCB 303(d) list of impaired water bodies for dissolved copper (CSWRCB 2006) and actions in other southern California boat basins suggest copper antifouling paints may soon be restricted elsewhere in the region (CRWQCB, LAR 2005; USEPA 2002). State and national action may further restrict copper-based antifouling paints. California Department of Pesticide Regulation and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (Singhasemanon 2005) are reevaluating antifouling paints and USEPA is considering lowering the standard for dissolved copper in saltwater from 3.1 µg/l to 1.9 µg/l (USEPA 2003). Some scientists and regulators fear that antifouling paint restrictions may increase the risk that aquatic invasive species (AIS) will be carried on vessel hulls.

The entire California coast has experienced invasions by species not native to the state or to the area of the coast where they have been discovered. Invasive species threaten biological diversity and ecological integrity worldwide. They can permanently reduce biodiversity by preying on, parasitizing, out-competing, causing or carrying diseases, or altering habitats of native species. (Convention on Biological Diversity 2005) Some AIS cause or carry human diseases or foster other species that do (Brancato and MacLellan 1999). Hull-borne invasive species can cause severe economic and ecological damage.

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Some can damage shorelines, man-made marine structures, equipment, and vessels, requiring costly repair or replacement. For example, the Atlantic shipworm (*Teredo navalis*) introduced by hull fouling, caused between \$2 billion and \$20 billion worth of damage to maritime facilities in San Francisco Bay in the early 20th century. (Cohen 2004)

WATER QUALITY AND INVASIVE SPECIES

The potential statewide ban of copper-based antifouling paints in California may exacerbate invasions as the toxicity of vessel hulls declines and water quality improves in coastal ports and harbors. On the other hand, native species may be more resistant to invasions if water quality improves. Although antifouling paints contribute to fouling control, recent studies indicate that hull fouling is still an important vector for invasive species. (Rainer 1995; Coutts 1999; Hewitt et al. 1999; Hewitt and Campbell 2001) In part this is because toxic antifouling paints simply slow fouling growth; they do not prevent it from becoming established on vessel hulls. Periodic, mechanical, hull cleaning is needed even when antifouling paints are present (Johnson and Miller 2002). Additionally, despite the biocidal action of antifouling paints, some species have evolved resistance to copper-based antifouling paints (Hall 1981). Resistance to heavy metals is a potentially important trait for introduced marine organisms, facilitating their successful invasion into disturbed natural communities (Piola and Johnston 2005).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) approach is becoming the standard for aquatic invasive species management. HACCP principles include identifying critical control points (CCPs), establishing controls for each CCP and establishing CCP monitoring requirements (AIS-HACCP 2004).

The CCPs are the points where removing fouling growth from hulls and underwater running gear and where using antifouling paints will be most effective in preventing or controlling invasive species transport. Focusing efforts on these CCPs helps to reduce costs and avoid unnecessary inconvenience. This approach begins by identifying vessels and situations that pose a higher risk of transporting and introducing hull-borne invasive species, taking into account those that pose a higher risk of contributing to elevated metal levels from antifouling paints in boat basins. Boat owners, marina managers, resource managers, scientists and others can help to develop this information. They can use it to decide how and when to deploy antifoulants, hull cleaning and other practices, to design research to improve practices, and to design long-term solutions.

The HACCP approach has been considered in developing the following recommendations for preventing the hull transport of AIS while protecting water quality. These practices are enhancements of existing, hull-husbandry practices and thus should be reasonably easy to adopt:

• Clean the hull before leaving the home harbor to travel to a distant region, island or to an event with boats from other areas.

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- Boat owners, who have left their home region or visited a major port, should clean hulls before traveling to a new destination or returning home.
- Upon arrival from a distant region or major port, heavily fouled boats should be hauled for hull cleaning.
- Removed material should be contained and disposed to prevent release to local ecosystems.

Some additional recommendations take into account boater trip distances. Boats that do not travel long distances are less likely to encounter potentially invasive species. Thus, the most reduction in pollution with a low risk of AIS transport could be achieved if such boats used nontoxic hull coatings with companion strategies, such as slip liners or frequent, in-water hull cleaning. Boats that travel long distances are most likely to acquire and transport invasive species. These boats may be better candidates for copper-based or less toxic antifoulants, as opposed to nontoxic hull coatings. Because they are relatively few in number and spend more time at sea, they would discharge relatively less toxicant to confined, marina waters.

By following the recommendations based on their own situations that may pose risks of transporting AIS or contributing to water quality degradation, boaters can adapt the HACCP approach and take matters into their own hands to protect water quality and prevent the hull transport of invasive species.

The University of California Cooperative Extension-Sea Grant Extension Program of San Diego County continues to conduct outreach programs on these recommendations for the boating communities of California and Baja California.

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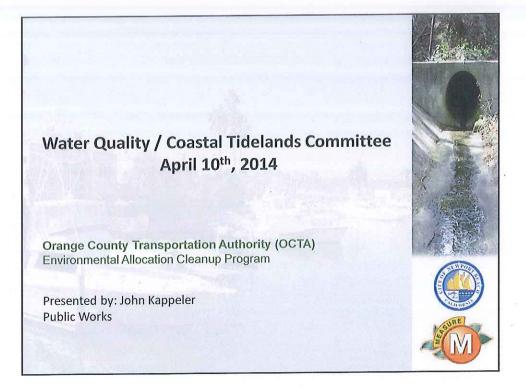
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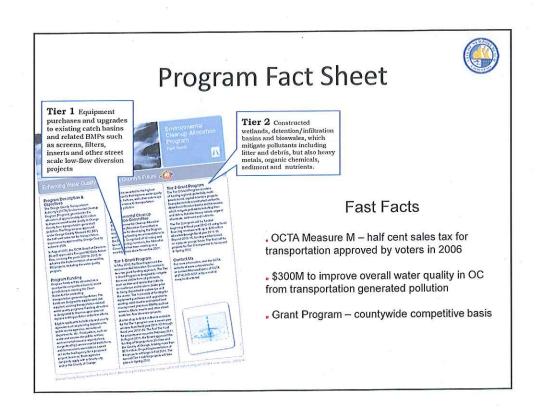
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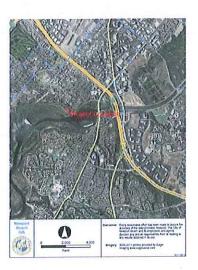
Tier II Program



- ▶\$25.3M available FY 2013-14
- ▶\$5M per grant application
- ▶ 20-50% matching funds

Tier II Projects – Awarded

Bayview Heights Restoration/Mitigation Project



4



Tier II Projects – Awarded

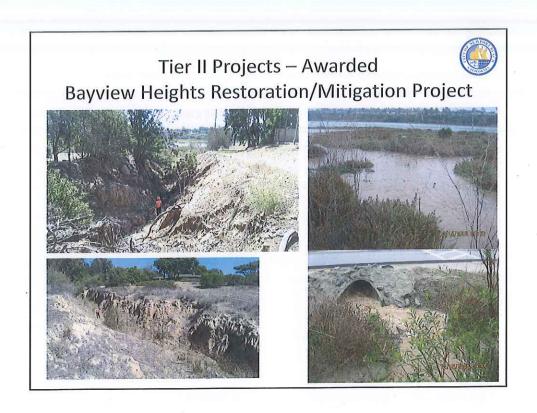
Bayview Heights Restoration/Mitigation Project

Total Project: \$485,000

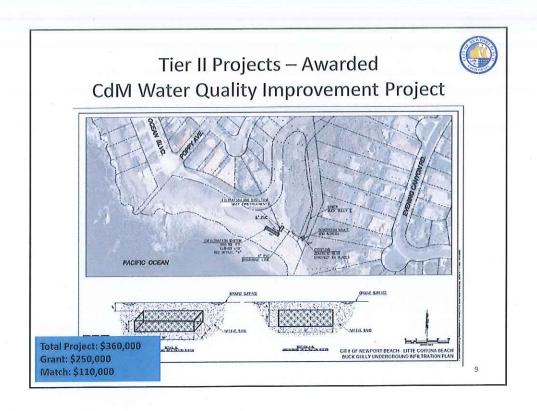
Grant: \$305,000

Match: \$180,000

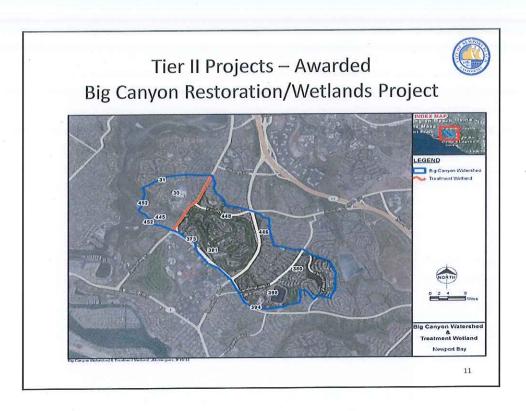
3













Tier II Projects – Awarded Big Canyon Restoration/Wetlands Project





13

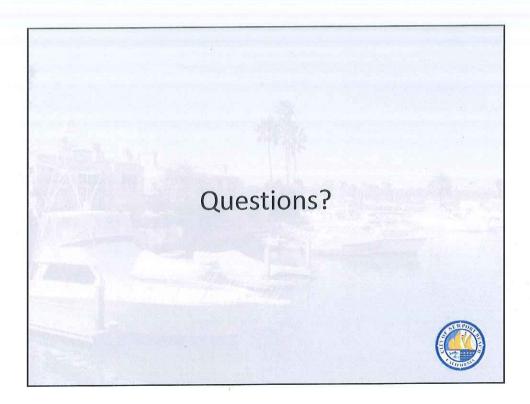
The "Numbers"



► Total Projects: \$3,120,400

► Total Grants: \$2,147,780

► Total Match: \$972,620 *



Ocean Friendly Gardens™ Yard Sign Criteria

An Ocean Friendly Garden (OFG) is a garden that applies CPR - Conservation, Permeability, and Retention© - to revive the health of our watersheds and oceans



An OFG Sign will be awarded to any garden that achieves the following criteria:

CONSERVATION	
Turf Areas	
Climate-appropriate turf grass is limited to 20% of total square footage of the landscaped area.	ntod play
Turf grass is limited to only those areas where it serves a specific purpose (docume area).	nteu pray
Turf grass is maintained organically without synthetic fertilizers and never over-wa	itered.
Turf grass is kept away from the perimeter of the garden, where irrigation overspra control.	y is hard to
Cool season turf grass is not in front yard gardens in areas receiving less than an average 44 inche rainfall.	s of annual
Warm season turf grass, if present, is not over-seeded with cool season grass during winter months	S.
Irrigation	
No automatic irrigation is utilized OR:	
Irrigation system is in good repair (no breaks or leaks) with no visible signs from stains on nearby surfaces or erosion on vegetated surfaces from repeated overspray or runoff. (See maintenance details	below)
No spray irrigation of any kind is installed in areas less than 10 feet wide OR a total surface area of 100 square feet.	of less than
Drip irrigation is ½ inch diameter tubing or larger utilizing either line source ("in-line") OR pointemitters ("on line").	nt source
No 1/4" diameter irrigation tubing is present, except where needed for irrigating of and raised beds. (See maintenance details below)	containers
Hoses have shut-off attachments.	
A weather-based irrigation controller (WBIC) or "smart" irrigation controller is installed OR	
Absent a WBIC, the irrigation controller has a rain shut-off installed.	
Mulch	
A minimum of 2 inches to 4 inches of natural woodchip mulch is present in all planted and open a	reas.
50% or more of the woodchip mulch must be smaller than 1 inch in length or diameter.	
Small open mulch-free areas are permitted if they are designated for native bee or insect habitat.	
Plants	
☐ Plants are grouped according to plant community or hydrozones including:	
Similar sunlight exposure, water requirements, root depth, soil type, hardiness and temperature adaptation, and/or size at maturity.	-1992
New gardens are planted with sufficient space between plants to accommodate mature growth with crowding, and to minimize pruning at maturity.	out over-
Plants requiring regular shearing are not permitted, unless they are edible or produce edible fruit. © 2010 Surfrider Foundation. All Rights Reserved	

	Plant material is 80% climate-appropriate unless it is edible or produces edible fruit. (Climate-appropriate plant material is defined as plant material with a Species Factor or Crop Co-efficient of 50% or less or is described by reliable local references as a "medium" water-using plant in the particular climate. In California, use www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/ for Species Factors.)
	Local native plant material is utilized for at least 10% of the visible garden area, whether or not the other plant material is edible or produces edible fruit.
	No invasive species are present. Invasive species are defined as those listed on the local Invasive Plant Council website as invasive or on the "watch list". (General information at: http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxiousDriver , and in California http://www.cal-ipc.org .)
	Water Features
	Water features may improve the habitat of the garden and are allowed within these guidelines:
	Water is recycled by the water feature.
	Open water features are covered at least 50% by vegetation,
	All water features are maintained without chemicals or additives that are toxic to fish.
	Overflow from the water feature drains into a vegetated area.
	Swimming pools and chemically treated water bodies are drained to sewer systems.
	Swimming pools must be covered to minimize evaporation when not in use.
	PERMEABILITY Healthy Living Soil
	Soil health is maintained organically without chemical additives.
	Soil health is maintained by the addition of compost, compost tea, and worm castings.
	Soil is not visible beneath a mulch layer, EXCEPT
	Areas 4 inches-12 inches around the crown of woody plants should remain un-mulched, and
	Areas 12 inches to 60 inches around the trunks of trees should remain un-mulched.
	These un-mulched areas should be minimized, but depends on the size of tree/plant crown.
	Permeable Hardscape
	Walkways and patios are made permeable with
	Plants, mulch or decomposed granite in gaps between pavers or other hard surfaces; OR
	Materials that permit water to "flow-through," e.g., permeable concrete or asphalt.
	Impermeable surfaces or minimally permeable surfaces, such as permeable pavers or decomposed granite, are graded to direct excess surface flow of water into adjacent vegetated areas.
	Existing impermeable surfaces such as driveways or large patio areas have been altered to direct surface flow of water into adjacent vegetated areas or retention/detention devices.
	RETENTION Downspout Re-direct
	If gutters are installed, all visible downspouts are directed away from impermeable surfaces into vegetated areas, mulched areas or retention/detention devices.
	Rain chains and other devices to slow the fall of water are recommended as a replacement for
1	downspouts.

If gutters are not installed, surfaces beneath the roof eaves are EITHER
Vegetated with hearty plants that can withstand the beating; OR
Covered with mulch, gravel or other sturdy and permeable materials, AND
Hardscape surfaces beneath roof eaves are altered to create areas of permeability and direct surface flow of rainwater into vegetated or mulched areas or retention/detention devices.
Drains carrying roof runoff or surface drain runoff from back yards or areas not visible to the street are EITHER:
Directed into rainbarrels or cisterns at the downspouts to slow and reduce the flow of water into the drainage system, OR
Disconnected from their overflow to street and re-directed into a vegetated or mulched area.
Sponge Gardens
The visible garden area has been designed to capture as much of the rainfall from rooftops and other impermeable surfaces as possible.
The flat areas on the property have been replaced with high and low contoured areas ("graded retention areas") to prevent rainfall from "sheeting" across the garden and off the property - helping to retain the first 1" of rainwater after a dry spell: AND/OR
A dry creek bed or vegetated swale ("bioswale") captures the majority of the surface flow of downspout water and water from adjacent hard surfaces, creating sufficient area to slow, spread and sink it.
Dry creek beds or vegetated swales are designed to hold at least 1" of rain from roof and adjacent hard surfaces, AND
Rainfall in excess of 1" or the water-holding capacity of the garden, whichever is greater, is safely directed off-site after having been run through vegetated areas, including bioswales and creek beds, to remove pollutants and retain sediment.
At least one tree or very large shrub has been planted at its proper distance from hard surfaces and buildings to help naturally store water for the entire garden. Retention Devices
Rainbarrels or above-ground cisterns are visible and are
Installed properly in accordance with any prevailing local building standards or codes,
Secured for safety purposes, and
Overflow into vegetated or mulched areas, AND/OR
Below surface retention areas and devices such as dry wells or cisterns are utilized to do the same.
Maintenance Details
1. Valve assemblies installed properly & in permeable areas (preferably surrounded by mulch or gravel).
 Irrigation shut-off valves are easily identified. Separate irrigation valves are utilized for each hydrozone (see "hydrozone" description in 4a below).
4. Back-flow prevention and pressure regulation is visible in or at the valve assembly.
Irrigation Details

Spray irrigation is matched precipitation, "multi-stream, multi-trajectory."
 Spray irrigation requires anti-drain check valves to prevent low head drainage.

3. Spray irrigation heads of any kind are installed at least 24 inches from hard surfaces and buildings.